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Senate Votes a \$12.8 Million Foreign Aid Bill

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WASHINGTON, May 15 — The Senate approved a \$12.8 billion foreign aid bill by an overwhelming majority today after agreeing not to take up the issue of aid to Nicaraguan rebels.

Approval of the bill, for the fiscal year 1986, was by a vote of 75 to 19 after two days of debate in which 46 amendments were offered and 34 accepted.

Among the amendments approved was a nonbinding measure in which the Senate said that future aid to the Philippines would be conditional on progress in insuring political democracy and human rights.

The warning, conveyed in a "sense of the Senate" amendment, adopted 89 to 8, does not carry the force of law and has no impact on the \$195 million in aid for the Philippines in the bill, which is for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1.

However, it puts the Senate on record as willing to reduce or eliminate aid to the Philippines in the future.

In other amendments, the Senate approved nonmilitary aid to non-Communist Cambodian rebels and to the Afghans; curbed aid to nations that are the source of cocaine, and authorized a total of \$2 billion in supplemental 1985 aid to Israel and Egypt.

Republican leaders decided against

reviving aid to the Nicaraguan rebels as part of the foreign aid bill. A Congressional source said Senator Bob Dole of Kansas, the majority leader, and Senator Richard G. Lugar of Indiana, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, thought it more appropriate to take up the Nicaraguan issue in a defense authorization bill, to be debated this week.

Senator Lugar was also understood to fear that the foreign aid bill might not be passed if it became bogged down in a new debate over Nicaragua policy. It has been a matter of pride to the Senator to win passage of a foreign aid bill this year, something that has not been done for five years. Since 1981, foreign aid has been disbursed under continuing resolutions.

The amendment on the Philippines, proposed by Senator John F. Kerry, Democrat of Massachusetts, said that, in granting future aid, Congress would want to see "sufficient progress" toward free and honest elections, freedom of speech and press, establishment of the writ of habeas corpus, release of political prisoners and open prosecution of those responsible for the slaying of Benigno S. Aquino Jr., the opposition leader.

The amendment on aid to the Cambodian rebels, adopted on a voice vote today, says \$5 million may be provided to non-Communist insurgents if aid is also provided by countries belonging to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. The sponsor, Senator Frank H. Murkowski, Republican of Alaska, said the money could be used for military or humanitarian purposes.

On Tuesday, the Senate authorized \$15 million for food, medicine and other humanitarian direct aid to the Afghans. The C.I.A. has been providing covert military aid to the rebels fighting the Soviet-backed Government.

Of the \$12.8 billion in the bill, \$6.3 billion is for military aid, of which nearly three-fourths will be divided among Israel, Egypt, Turkey and Greece. There is \$3.8 billion in economic support funds, more than half going to Israel and Egypt, and \$2.1 billion in development assistance.